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Decorin and biglycan are necessary for maintaining collagen fibril structure, fiber realignment, and mechanical properties of mature tendons

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Decorin and Biglycan Are Necessary for Maintaining Collagen Fibril Structure, Fiber Realignment, and Mechanical Properties of Mature Tendons

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Running Title: Decorin maintains structural and functional properties in mature tendons

*Key Words:* Tendon, Decorin, Biglycan, Collagen fibril, Fiber realignment, Structure, Mechanical properties, Conditional knockout mice

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